

A Deep Well

Service for Good Friday

Christ Candle is Lit

We remember the one who said, "I am the Light of the World"

Opening Hymn VU121 Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery
verses for Lent 1-5

Call to Worship

Come and worship this good day.
Come and sit with the pain.
Come and sit with the grief.
Come and sit with the love.
All mingled together on this good day.
God be with you.
And also, with you.

Anthem **Dust and Ashes**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

This day is weighted not only by our pain at the cross, but by the pain our practices and traditions have caused others. In a time of rising anxiety and hatred, in a time when we are feeling more alone than ever, in a time when the order of the world is changing, we know that it is vital to be careful and gentle with each other.

We confess that the words used to tell your story of sorrow and love still hold the echoes of the accusations against the Jewish people. We confess that we carry the impulse to blame an entire people for the actions of a few political leaders. We confess that we have used this same logic against people who have different beliefs, speak a different language, have a different skin tone, a different gender, or sexuality.

We confess that fear and misunderstandings on this day hide the love you have for your world, the love so clearly offered, even in death.

Help us remain with Jesus this day, sharing in his love, grief, and trust.

Stop us from projecting anger and blame onto others, actions that only

separate us from your love.

Stay with us through this pain so that we stay with Jesus until Easter morning breaks again.

It is in his name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved people of God, remember it is Jesus on the cross who extends forgiveness and offers sinners and outcasts a place in the kin'dom, echoing the forgiveness and grace he lived throughout his ministry. From this grace, may we live, and may we continue to repair harm as we seek just relationships. Amen.

Hymn

VU137

The Love That Clothes Itself in Light

Scripture **John 18:1–27**

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

Jesus before the High Priest

Peter Denies Jesus

The High Priest Questions Jesus

Peter Denies Jesus Again

Embodied Response MV90

Scripture **John 18:28—19:16**

Jesus before Pilate

Jesus Sentenced to Death

Embodied Response MV90

Scripture **John 19:17–42**

The Crucifixion of Jesus

Jesus's Side Is Pierced

The Burial of Jesus

Hymn MV90 Don't Be Afraid

Sermon

Song of Reflection: Don't Be Afraid

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
My love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
And I have promised, Promised to be always near.**

Offering

- **Offering Music: Music Director's Choice**
 - **Offertory Response – We Give You But Your Own VU542 •**
- Offertory Prayer**

Embodied Prayers of the People

1. Start by becoming aware of the points of contact between your body and the pew.
2. Notice the weight of your arms and hands resting in your lap. Then shift your awareness to your breathing. You don't have to change your breath in any way—just let your body breathe itself. (silence)
3. Bring your attention to your upper back. Notice the muscles expanding on the in-breath and contracting on the out-breath. Keep your focus here for a time. (silence)
4. How did the words in the story of Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion land in your body. Where do they go? What do they touch? What is their shape and weight? Keep breathing...keep being breathed. Notice how the words of scripture are taking up space in your body. Are you letting them land? Is there a barrier? Pay attention. Notice. Be curious without judgment. Notice that you are safe here, breathing. (silence)
5. Trusting that the silence holds our deepest longings, our prayers we cannot speak, let us enter into silence with our God near to us. (silence)

Hymn VU136 O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile

Commissioning and Benediction

As we go from this space, may our hearts keep vigil at the cross.

Steadfast as Mary, may we accompany Jesus in his death and accompany each other in our grief.

And we go, trusting that the love and grace of God carries us, the compassion of Jesus lifts us, and the gentleness of the Spirit guides us.

Amen.